

**ENGINEERING DIRECTIVES AND STANDARDS**

Volume : I                      Effective Date :  
Chapter : 1                    Revision Date : 07/07/1994  
Section : 1                    Subject : BRIDGE MANAGEMENT  
Directive : 16

1. **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this directive is to establish a Bridge Management System (BMS) to assist administrative officials in optimizing existing resources and determining additional funding required to provide a safe, efficient transportation system.
2. **SCOPE.** This directive identifies specific objectives of the BMS and outlines section responsibilities for data collection, analysis and reporting.
3. **POLICY.** The Department will develop, implement, and maintain a BMS in compliance with Federal Highway Administration requirements; as needed to collect and analyze appropriate data to aid in decision making for bridge replacement, rehabilitation and maintenance and to determine funding needed to provide for optimum management of the bridge system.
4. **OBJECTIVES.**
  - a. Provide a systematic method and specific criteria for collection of data.
  - b. Coordinate and provide network and project level analysis of data.
  - c. Assess the cost effectiveness of various deficiency eliminating strategies.
  - d. Coordinate information flow between DOTD Sections.
  - e. Identify District and statewide needs for bridge replacement and rehabilitation.
  - f. Provide documentable data to support legislative reports, briefs and funding requests.
  - g. Provide management with consistent on-system bridge status throughout the state.
  - h. Monitor performance, evaluate existing conditions and set goals.
  - i. Provide a historical record of performance of materials and structural designs to be used as a guide in developing cost effective design procedures.

**5. RESPONSIBILITIES.****a. Bridge Management Section**

This section will be responsible for the administration of the BMS. It will coordinate the collection and compilation of data and engineering analysis. The Section will obtain information and assistance from other sections of the Department, such as, but not limited to, Bridge Design, Research (LTRC), Bridge Maintenance and the Districts.

The Section will develop strategies for achieving short and long-range objectives and will function under the supervision of the Office of the Director of Planning and Research.

Coordinate bridge management project level needs and program development activities with The Design Section, The Highway Needs Section, The Bridge Maintenance Section, and The Districts.

Coordinate research activities on Bridge Management.

**b. Bridge Design Section**

Will assist the Bridge Management Section through support by performing structural engineering analysis, design, cost analysis, plan preparation and technical expertise, utilizing either in-house staff or consultant services.

**c. Louisiana Transportation Research Center**

Will assist in initiating and operating the Bridge Management System through participation in the various committees.

Will assist in developing proposals, administer contracts and monitor progress of needed studies or research in conjunction with the LADOTD Bridge Management Engineer to insure successful operation of the BMS on a continuing basis.

Will prepare RFP documents as needed for research or enhancements of the BMS as requested by the Department's Bridge Maintenance and Management Sections. receipt.

**d. Bridge Maintenance Section**

Will maintain a data base for all public bridges in the state consisting of basic inventory information, current inspection data to reflect current condition and historical inspection data since 1977. Hard copy files are maintained for each structure containing the inspection reports, photos, sketches and correspondence.

Will provide guidance and technical assistance as related to bridge maintenance.

**e. Districts**

Will assist with data collection and field review and implementation of specific projects as assigned. Responsible for District network and project level activities.

6. **IMPLEMENTATION.** The Bridge Management System will be implemented statewide for all bridges on Public roads. Complete design of the Bridge Management System will be accomplished by September 30, 1995. The System will be fully operational by September 30, 1998, and will result in the identification of bridge needs for consideration in developing the Statewide Bridge Improvement Program.
7. **OTHER ISSUANCES AFFECTED.** All directives, memoranda or instruction issued prior to this directive which are in conflict are, hereby, rescinded.
8. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This directive will be effective upon receipt.

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